

RESPONSE

A. Status of the Claims

Claims 38-60 were pending at the time of the Restriction Requirement, with claims 1-37 having been canceled in the Preliminary Amendment filed with the application. Claims 55-60 are withdrawn from consideration at this time in view of the election of the Group I invention made below in response to the Restriction Requirement. Therefore, claims 38-54 are presently under consideration in the case.

B. Response to Restriction Requirement

In response to the restriction requirement, Applicants elect, *without traverse*, to prosecute the Group I invention, as exemplified by claims 38-54, drawn to hyperimmune serum-reactive antigens or antigen fragments and a pharmaceutical composition.

C. Response to Species Election Requirement

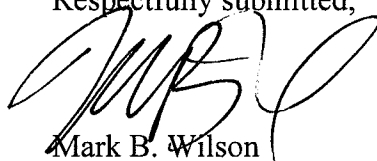
The examiner has also entered a species election requirement with regard to the fragments set forth in Table 1, Table 3, or claims 40-43. Applicants elect the hyperimmune serum-reactive antigen and fragments of SEQ ID NO: 288 as the species for prosecution. Applicants point out that the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 288 is encoded by the nucleic acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 110. Claims 38-54 read on and are generic to the elected species.

Applicants reserve all rights to reintroduce non-elected species in the event of allowance of a generic claim.

D. Conclusion

Applicants believe this paper to be a full and complete response to the Restriction Requirement dated November 13, 2007. Applicants respectfully request favorable consideration of this case in view of the above comments and amendments. Should the Examiner have any questions, comments, or suggestions relating to this case, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned Applicants' representative at (512) 536-5654.

Respectfully submitted,



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